

ARTICLE APPEARED  
ON PAGE A-11WASHINGTON TIMES  
3 MAY 1984

# Letters

## *Informing Congress of covert activities*

The April 12 editorial, "Mining U.S. foreign policy," was critical of my position on mining the harbors around Central America. What you fail to remember, and maybe you never heard it, was that I said at the time of this uproar that had I been president I would have ordered the mining of these harbors myself, only I would have done it a little differently. I would have told the American people about it.

My main objection was not the fact that there was mining; it was that the CIA had completely failed

in its responsibilities to inform our committee of this covert action. Now, I know William Casey and some members of my committee have said that information was given but, I can tell you, having sat through every hearing that we've had, this is not true. It wasn't a case of Sen. Ted Kennedy out-foxing anybody, it was just a case of the CIA failing to observe the requirements of the law, that established by both of the intelligence committees in the Senate and House.

**BARRY GOLDWATER**  
Chairman, Intelligence Committee  
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